

**NC Department of Commerce**  
**Workforce Monthly Activity**  
**July 2012**

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August 17, 2012

		Current Month JUL 12	LABOR MARKET INFORMATION	Prior Month <sup>1</sup> JUN 12
<b>Dempsey Benton</b> <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		8.3%	U. S. Unemployment Rate	8.2%
<b>Stephanie McGarrah</b> <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		9.6%	North Carolina Unemployment Rate	9.4%
		4,646,975	Size of North Carolina Civilian Labor Force	4,655,387
		4,202,281	Number of workers employed in North Carolina	4,216,014
<b>Roger J. Shackleford</b> <i>Assistant Secretary</i>		444,694	Number of workers unemployed in North Carolina	439,373
		3,956,700	Estimated Nonfarm Employment in North Carolina	3,954,900
		JUL 12	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) ACTIVITY <sup>2</sup>	JUN 12
<b>Unemployment</b>		594,199	Individuals receiving one or more UI payments – 2011 (All programs)	594,199
<b>Benefit Payments</b>		110,972	Individuals receiving UI benefits – Jul. 2012	100,280
<b>July 2012</b>		411,452	Weeks of UI paid in Jul. 2012	332,139
		\$1.4 Billion	Amount paid in UI – 2011	\$1.4 Billion
		\$119.0 Million	Amount paid in UI – Jul. 2012 <sup>3</sup>	\$95.5 Million
		\$63.7 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier I – Jul. 2012 <sup>4</sup>	\$52.9 Million
		\$31.4 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier II – Jul. 2012 <sup>4</sup>	\$25.5 Million
		\$22.5 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier III – Jul. 2012 <sup>4</sup>	\$19.8 Million
		\$14.4 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EUC Tier IV – Jul. 2012 <sup>4</sup>	\$9.5 Million
Mecklenburg \$12,717,642		\$40,228	Amount paid in Federal Benefits – EB – Jul. 2012 <sup>5</sup>	\$188,130
Wake \$10,385,338		\$0	Amount NC paid in Extended Benefits – EB – Jul. 2012 <sup>5</sup>	\$0
Guilford \$6,298,508		\$280.19	Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – 2011	\$280.19
Forsyth \$3,957,492		\$289.26	Average Weekly UI Benefit Amount – Jul. 2012	\$287.42
Cumberland \$3,383,846		\$45 / \$522	Minimum/Maximum amount of UI benefits (per week) – Jul.2012	\$45 / \$522
Durham \$2,795,504		16.4 Weeks	Average Duration (Apr. 2011 – Mar. 2012)	16.4 Weeks
Gaston \$2,668,627		25 <sup>th</sup> (Lowest)	Duration Ranking (Apr. 2011 – Mar. 2012)	25 <sup>th</sup> (Lowest)
New Hanover \$2,284,975		\$1.4 Billion	Total collected in UI Taxes in 12-month period ending Jul. 2012	\$1.4 Billion
Buncombe \$2,269,336		\$1.4 Billion	Total paid in UI Benefits in 12-month period ending Jul. 2012	\$1.4 Billion
Catawba \$2,085,206		-\$2.6 Billion	Trust Fund Balance – Jul. 31, 2012	-\$2.6 Billion
		\$2.6 Billion	Federal Loan Balance – Jul. 31, 2012	\$2.6 Billion
		\$126.5 Million	State Reserve Balance – Jul. 31, 2012	\$174.8 Million
		JUL 12	EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITY	JUN 12
		37,719	New & Renewed Jobseekers – Jul. 2012	36,613
		363,259	New & Renewed Jobseekers for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	665,378
		37,719	New & Renewed Jobseekers - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012)	363,259
		63,089	Jobseekers provided service – Jul. 2012 <sup>6</sup>	60,350
		43,108	Jobseekers referred to jobs – Jul. 2012 <sup>6</sup>	41,553
		167,559	Total Services provided – Jul. 2012	161,998
		19,904	Job Openings listed – Jul. 2012	15,624
		202,588	Job Openings listed for PY (Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012)	172,638
		19,904	Job Openings listed - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012)	202,588
		6,438	Jobseekers entering employment through ES – Jul. 2012	6,368
		6,438	Jobseekers entering employment through ES - Y-T-D (Jul. 2012)	65,924

<sup>1</sup> Data in this column represent prior month, prior quarter or prior year data; i.e., prior year equals 2011 data.

<sup>2</sup> Regular UI benefits unless otherwise noted.

<sup>3</sup> Includes benefits paid according to the federal ETA 5159 Claims and Payment Activities Report.

<sup>4</sup> Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) provides up to 53 weeks of 100% federally funded compensation.

<sup>5</sup> Extended Benefits program (EB) provides 80% or up to a maximum of 20 weeks of extended unemployment insurance benefits.

<sup>6</sup> Totals for *Jobseekers provided service* and *Jobseekers referred to jobs* represent the number of customers who, during the report month, received a reportable service or were referred to employment for the first time since the beginning of the Program Year (July 1, 2012).

# Highlights

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The Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security (DES) processed a total of 503,973 Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance in July 2012, up 24.9 percent from June (403,582) and 0.7 percent from July a year ago (500,384).

July's statewide Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) at 3.0 percent rose above the 2.6 percent of June 2012 and was below the 3.2 percent of July a year ago.

There were 64,214 state UI Initial Claims (excluding Interstate Liable, UCX and UCFE) filed in July 2012, up 38.1 percent from the prior month's total of 46,512. Compared with July 2011 (60,223), Initial Claims' volume increased 6.6 percent.

During the first quarter 2012, North Carolina's average duration of Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance benefits increased from 16.3 weeks to 16.4 weeks, equal to Texas. The national average decreased from 17.5 weeks to 17.4 weeks during this time period. During the same quarter, states with lower duration weeks were: North Dakota, 12.2 weeks; Georgia, 13.4 weeks; Iowa, 14.1 weeks; Idaho, 14.3 weeks; Indiana, Nebraska and Utah, 14.4 weeks; South Dakota, 14.5 weeks; South Carolina, 14.6 weeks; New Hampshire, 14.8 weeks; Alabama, 14.9 weeks; Vermont, 15.2 weeks; Tennessee, 15.4 weeks; Wyoming, 15.5 weeks; Arkansas and Michigan, 15.6 weeks; West Virginia, 15.8 weeks; Maine, 16.0 weeks; Colorado and Minnesota, 16.1 weeks; Kansas, 16.2 weeks; and Mississippi, Virginia and Wisconsin, 16.3 weeks.

During July 2012, 4 counties reported a decrease in the IUR while 96 reported an increase. When comparing current rates to July 2011, 61 counties reported a decrease in the IUR while 39 reported an increase. Counties with the lowest rates in July 2012 were: Dare, 0.97 percent; Watauga, 1.22 percent; Orange, 1.40 percent; Hyde, 1.54 percent and Tyrrell, 1.58 percent. Counties with the highest rates in July 2012 were: Caswell, 8.93 percent; Perquimans, 8.76 percent; Stokes, 7.41 percent; Hoke, 7.22 percent and Graham, 7.13 percent.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance was at a deficit of \$2,576,421,821 on July 31, 2012. Since Jan. 1, 2012, the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund improved \$89,667,828. During July, DES collected \$66,484,027 in Unemployment Insurance taxes assessed to employers. The Federal Loan had a balance of \$2,580,808,911, and the State Reserve Fund had a balance of \$126,468,679.

As of June 30, 2012, there were 196,962 covered employers in the state compared to 195,977 at the end of the prior quarter, and 195,176 at the end of June a year ago.

Claimants in July 2012 were paid \$119,016,026 in unemployment benefits. The weekly average payment per claimant without earnings was \$299.14, an increase of 0.4 percent from the prior month (\$297.80). This average increased 2.0 percent from July 2011 (\$293.30). Claimants receiving first payments in July totaled 27,111, a 43.9 percent increase from June (18,846) and 9.7 percent from the July 2011 level (24,711). Claimants exhausting benefit rights numbered 14,795, for an increase of 20.1 percent from June's volume (12,317) and decreased 4.8 percent from the July 2011 volume (15,535).

There were 37,719 new and renewed jobseekers in July 2012, up 3.0 percent from the prior month's total of 36,613 and a decline of 0.4 percent from the July 2011 level (37,856). Jobseekers provided services through local offices in July numbered 63,089, a 4.5 percent increase from June (60,350) and 1.5 percent from the July 2011 level (62,128). Jobseekers referred to jobs by local offices in July totaled 43,108, a 3.7 percent increase from the prior month (41,553) and a 0.5 percent decrease from July 2011 level (43,325). Total services provided via local offices in July was 167,559, rose 3.4 percent from June (161,998) and 6.1 percent from July a year ago (157,983).

Job Openings listed with local offices in July 2012 totaled 19,904, a 27.4 percent increase from the prior month (15,624) and 16.3 percent from July 2011 (17,110).

In July 2012, there were 6,438 jobseekers that entered employment as a result of services obtained through a local office — 1.1 percent more than June (6,368) and 11.6 percent less than July a year ago (7,281).